

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A fence assembly comprising:

a ground stake;

a first fence segment and a second fence segment, each fence segment having a picket post and a hollow channel rail which is substantially continuous for the length of said fence segment, each hollow channel rail having two ends, said ground stake fitting inside said picket post of one of said fence segments; and

a connector inserted into said end of said hollow channel rail of said first fence segment and into said end of said hollow channel rail of said second fence segment, thereby securing said fence segments together, said connector comprising:

a channel body defined by a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, said channel body having two faces;

a terminal wall connected to said channel body at one of said faces of said channel body, said terminal wall having an outer surface and a peripheral edge; and

a connecting element connected to said terminal wall, said connecting element comprising:

a second channel body defined by a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, said second channel body having two faces;

a second terminal wall connected to said second channel body at one of said faces of said second channel body, said second terminal wall having an outer surface and a peripheral edge; and

a flexible joining member connecting said peripheral edge of said second terminal wall to said peripheral edge of said first terminal wall, thereby forming a living hinge.

2. The fence assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said first side wall and said second side wall of said second channel body are substantially parallel and equal in length.
3. The fence assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said first end wall and said second end wall of said second channel body are substantially parallel and equal in length.
4. The fence assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said first end wall and said second end wall of said second channel body are of a length shorter than said first side wall and said second side wall of said second channel body.
5. The fence assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said second terminal wall is substantially perpendicular to said second channel body and is of a size slightly larger than the perimeter of said second channel body, thereby forming a ledge around said second channel body.
6. The fence assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said first channel body and said second channel body are substantially similar in size and shape.
7. The fence assembly as defined in claim 1, wherein said first terminal wall and said second terminal wall are substantially similar in size and shape.
8. A fence assembly comprising:
 - a ground stake;
 - a first fence segment and a second fence segment, each fence segment having a picket post and a hollow channel rail which is substantially continuous for

the length of said fence segment, each hollow channel rail having two ends, said ground stake fitting inside said picket post of one of said fence segments; and

a connector inserted into said end of said hollow channel rail of said first fence segment and into said end of said hollow channel rail of said second fence segment, thereby securing said fence segments together, said connector comprising;

a channel body defined by a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, said channel body having two faces, said first side wall and said second side wall being substantially parallel and equal in length and said first end wall and said second end wall being substantially parallel and equal in length such that said first end wall and said second end wall are of a length shorter than said first side wall and said second side wall;

a terminal wall connected to said channel body at one of said faces of said channel body, said terminal wall having an outer surface and a peripheral edge, said terminal wall being substantially perpendicular to said channel body and of a size slightly larger than the perimeter of said channel body, thereby forming a ledge around said channel body; and

a connecting element connected to said terminal wall, said connecting element comprising:

a second channel body defined by a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, said second channel body having two faces, said first side wall and said second side wall of said second channel body being substantially parallel and equal in length and said first end wall and said second end wall of said second channel body being substantially parallel and equal in length such that said first end wall and said second end wall of said second channel

body are of a length shorter than said first side wall and said second side wall of said second channel body;

a second terminal wall connected to said second channel body at one of said faces of said second channel body, said second terminal wall having an outer surface and a peripheral edge, said second terminal wall being substantially perpendicular to said second channel body and of a size slightly larger than the perimeter of said second channel body, thereby forming a ledge around said second channel body; and

a flexible joining member connecting said second peripheral edge of said second terminal wall to said first peripheral edge of said first terminal wall, thereby forming a living hinge.

9. The fence assembly as defined in claim 8, wherein:

said first channel body and said second channel body are substantially similar in size and shape; and

said first terminal wall and said second terminal wall are substantially similar in size and shape.

10. A fence assembly comprising:

a ground stake;

a first fence segment and a second fence segment, each fence segment having a picket post and a hollow channel rail which is substantially continuous for the length of said fence segment, each hollow channel rail having two ends, said ground stake fitting inside said picket post of one of said fence segments; and

a connector inserted into said end of said hollow channel rail of said first fence segment and into said end of said hollow channel rail of said second fence segment, thereby securing said fence segments together, said connector comprising:

a base member;

a channel body having two faces, said channel body defined by a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall;

a terminal wall connected to said channel body at one of said faces of said channel body, said terminal wall having an outer surface and a peripheral edge; and

a flexible joining member connecting said peripheral edge of said terminal wall to said base member, thereby forming a living hinge.

11. The fence assembly as defined in claim 10, wherein said first side wall and said second side wall are substantially parallel and equal in length.

12. The fence assembly as defined in claim 10, wherein said first end wall and said second end wall are substantially parallel and equal in length.

13. The fence assembly as defined in claim 10, wherein said first end wall and said second end wall are of a length shorter than said first side wall and said second side wall.

14. The fence assembly as defined in claim 10, wherein said terminal wall is substantially perpendicular to said channel body and is of a size slightly larger than the perimeter of said channel body, thereby forming a ledge around said channel body.

15. A fence assembly comprising:

a ground stake;

a first fence segment and a second fence segment, each fence segment having a picket post and a hollow channel rail which is substantially continuous for the length of said fence segment, each hollow channel rail having two ends, said ground stake fitting inside said picket post of one of said fence segments; and

a connector inserted into said end of said hollow channel rail of said first fence segment and into said end of said hollow channel rail of said second fence segment, thereby securing said fence segments together, said connector comprising:

a base member;

a channel body having two faces, said channel body defined by a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, said first side wall and said second side wall being substantially parallel and equal in length and said first end wall and said second end wall being substantially parallel and equal in length such that said first end wall and said second end wall are of a length shorter than said first side wall and said second side wall;

a terminal wall connected to said channel body at one of said faces of said channel body, said terminal wall being substantially perpendicular to said channel body and of a size slightly larger than the perimeter of said channel body such that a ledge is formed around said channel body, said terminal wall having an outer surface and a peripheral edge; and

a flexible joining member connecting said peripheral edge of said terminal wall to said base member, thereby forming a living hinge.

16. A connector for connecting fence segments together, said connector comprising:

a first body member adapted to be connected to a first fence segment;

a first terminal wall connected to said first body member;

a second body member adapted to be connected to a second fence segment;
a second terminal wall connected to said second body member; and
a flexible joining member connecting said second terminal wall to said first terminal wall, thereby forming a living hinge.

17. The connector of claim 16 wherein said first body member and said second body member are substantially similar.

18. The connector of claim 16 wherein said flexible joining member is comprised of flexible polyvinyl chloride.

19. The connector of claim 16 wherein:

said first body member is comprised of at least one wall that is tapered; and

said second body member is comprised of at least one wall that is tapered.

20. The connector of claim 19 wherein:

said first body member is comprised of a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, each of said walls having a tapered edge portion; and

said second body member is comprised of a first side wall, a second side wall, a first end wall, and a second end wall, each of said walls having a tapered edge portion.

21. The connector of claim 16 wherein said first body member and said second body member are hollow.